

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201493 TOSEC 100090

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY C:HSonnenfelt/S/PRS:RLFUNSETH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201493 TOSEC 100090

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADDITIONAL PRESS GUIDANCE RE POSSIBLE

US/USSR GRAIN SWAP

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM HELMUT SONNENFELT AND S/PRS  
(FUNSETH)

NO. 11

REF: (A) STATE 198738 TOSEC 100008

(B) STATE 199854 TISEC 100026

1. IN ANTICIPATION OF FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS TO SPERLING  
STORY IN CSM (REFTEL A), WE WOULD LIKE APPROVAL TO USE  
FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE WHICH WOULD SUBSTITUTE FOR  
QUESTION AND ANSWER IN PARA TWO OF REFTEL B, AS FOLLOWS:

QUESTION: HAS THE UNITED STATES HAD ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH  
THE SOVIET UNION ON ANY SWAP ARRANGEMENT OF U.S. GRAIN FOR  
SOVIET OIL?

SUGGESTED RESPONSE: THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS  
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UNDER EXAMINATION RELATED TO SOVIET INTEREST IN THE PUR-

CHASE OF U.S. GRAIN, INCLUDING THE IDEA OF SOVIET OIL DELIVERIES IN EXCHANGE FOR U.S. GRAIN. THERE ARE NO NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY AT THIS TIME. AND NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT TIMING -- IS THERE ANY LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH AN EXCHANGE BEING WORKED OUT IN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS?

SUGGESTED RESPONSE: THERE HAVE ONLY BEEN THE MOST GENERAL, EXPLORATORY TALKS ON THIS KIND OF PROPOSITION. THEREFORE, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PREDICT ANY TIME FRAME. IN ANY CASE, AT THE PRESENT, THE WHOLE MATTER IS ACADEMIC UNTIL A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ARE RESOLVED, INCLUDING THAT INVOLVING THE SHIPMENT OF U.S. GRAIN.

QUESTION: HAVE WE TALKED ABOUT THIS PROPOSITION WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY BUT THE USSR?

SUGGESTED RESPONSE: I DO NOT KNOW OF TALKS WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

2. FROM INQUIRIES WE HAVE RECEIVED, IT IS EVIDENT THAT A NUMBER OF REPORTERS HAVE BEEN CHECKING OUT THE ORIGIN

OF SPERLING'S STORY AND WE COULD BE PRESSED VERY HARD ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER WE HAVE TALKED TO THE SOVIETS ABOUT SUCH A PROPOSITION.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON OUR PROPOSED GUIDANCE, CONTAINED IN REFTEL A, AS WELL AS THE REVISION ABOVE.

MAW

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## Message Attributes

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